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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:	Chedgey, et al.	Confirmation No.: 8068
Application No.:	09/742,255	Group Art Unit : 2122
Filed: December 20, 2000		Examiner: Chuck Kendall
For:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COMPUTER-AIDED GRAPH-BASED DEPENDENCY ANALYSIS	Attorney Docket No.: 61134-0003

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This document is in response to the interview summary filed by the examiner on July 17, 2006. Applicants thank the examiner for the interview. The substance of the interview is stated below.

This phone interview was attended by Chris Chedgey, the main inventor of the above application; Kevin Xin He, the patent agent; and Examiner Chuck Kendall. Applicant first explained that the claims were directed to a tool for analyzing software code by mapping pieces of software code to nodes and edges in a multi-level tree structure. Applicant then pointed out that the references cited by the pending office action were fundamentally different than what is claimed in the application, because none of these references teaches a tool for analyzing software code.

Applicant and Examiner then exchanged views on claim 14 as an example claim. Claim 14 was rejected by the then-pending office action under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by US Patent Number 5,490,246 ("Brotsky"). Applicants stated that claim 14 is not anticipated by Brotsky for at least the following reasons.

First, claim 14 is directed to a tool for analyzing the dependency relationship between software code. It comprises a hierarchy of graphs, a rendering system to display such hierarchy of graphs and "a user interface ... causing the rendering

system to replace the displayed node with one or more embedded child nodes in response to the user action."

In contrast, Brotsky teaches a graphical image editor where the user creates a directed graph (the ACG) in order to describe how an image is constructed out of one or more figural elements such as graphical images. Brotsky is not directed to a software analysis tool because graphical images are not software code. An internal node or transform in Brotsky's ACG simply represents an operation, i.e. an internal node takes image fragments as input and produces a new image as output. Internal nodes do not have embedded child nodes. Furthermore, the user interface of Brotsky does not provide editors for internal nodes. Thus, internal nodes cannot be edited and can not be replaced by their child nodes.

The Examiner stated that there might be allowable substance in the claims, but the claims in their present forms seemed very broad and vague. The Examiner agreed to take a closer look in the application. Applicant agreed to amend claims to incorporate multilevel structure for each node comprising a parent and child level within the structure and also being relative to software code or programs.

No agreement with respect to the claims was reached.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 10, 2006

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